

## CLAIMS

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1. Control device for controlling electromedical appliances (1, 1') or appliance groups (2), comprising at least two pedal switches or similar switching means (10) for generating control signals to control the appliances (1, 1') or appliance groups (2),  
10 plug-and-socket connectors or similar connecting means (20) disposed on the switching means (10), by way of which the switching means (10) can be connected to one another, allocation means (30) to allocate to the control signals  
15 particular controlling functions with reference to the appliances (1, 1') or appliance groups (2), and information-transfer means (40) to transmit the control signals from the switching means (10) to the appliances (1, 1') or appliance groups (2).
- 20 2. Control device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the connecting means (20) comprise a data bus (21) designed so that after a plurality of switching means (10) have been connected to one another, the control signals of all switching means (10) are  
25 available at the data bus (21).
3. Control device according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that each of the switching means (10) comprises two signal couplers (11, 12), in particular plug-and-socket connectors, that are connected to the data bus  
30 (21) in such a way that when switching means (10) are connected together in series, the data bus (21) can be connected to the information-transfer means (40) by way of at least one of the signal couplers (11, 12).

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4. Control device according to one of the preceding claims,  
characterized in that the information-transfer means (40)  
comprise at least one transmitter (41) that can be  
connected to the switching means (10) and at least one  
5 receiver (42) connected to the appliances (1, 1') or  
appliance groups (2), for wireless transmission of the  
control signals.
5. Control device according to one of the preceding claims,  
characterized by a base plate (50) onto which the switching  
10 means (10) can be set.
6. Control device according to Claim 5,  
characterized in that the base plate (50) comprises  
intermediate connecting means (11) by way of which the  
switching means (10) can be connected to one another.
- 15 7. Control device according to one of the preceding claims,  
characterized by coding means (43) for the identification  
of switching means (10) by the appliances (1, 1') or  
appliance groups (2).